April 26, 2004

Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Atn: Chief Counsel, Laurie Collins, Suite 100
570 West Ave. 26
Los Angeles, CA 90065

Subject: State Permit/Easement for Upcoming Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Pipe maintenance work in the Santa Monica Mountains, near Stunt Road Mildas Drive Pipeline Relocation Project

Dear Laurie:

Attached is an environmental report/documentation prepared by the district's consultant, Envicom, regarding the proposed Mildas Drive Pipeline Relocation project. This is a comprehensive report that addresses the environmental issues regarding this maintenance project. This pipeline relocation project is necessary for ensuring reliable domestic water service and fire flow protection to our customers within this area. Time is of the essence for this project: if you have questions, please call me at (818) 251-2161, or Rommel Marzan, the district's project manager, at (818) 251-2157.

Sincerely,

Neal L. Clover

Neal Clover

Nlc: rmm

C: Richard Rutledge, Epic____

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
EST. 1958

Dedicated to Providing Quality
Water & Wastewater Service

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4232 Las Virgenes Road
Calabasas, CA 91302
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WESTLAKE
FILTRATION PLANT
(818) 251-2370
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www.lvmwd.com

MEMBER AGENCY OF THE
METROPOLITAN WATER
DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

July 8, 2004

Ms. Rorie Skei
State of California
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
5750 Ramirez Canyon Road
Malibu, CA 90265

Subject: **Saddlepeak Tank/ Mildas Drive Pipeline Relocation Project**
Request for an Expedited Permit to Enter
- **Previous Permit to Enter Document with the State (1998)**

Dear Rorie:

Thank you for meeting with us last week at the project site. As we discussed, we are providing you with a copy of a previous Permit to Enter document that the State granted to Las Virgenes Municipal Water District in 1998. Our project's primary goal is to construct facilities that will provide reliable water and fire flow service to maintain the health and safety of our customers within that area. Given the importance of this goal, it is our hope that your office grants us a similar Permit to Enter for this project as soon as possible.

Please e-mail me at rmarzan@lvmwd.com or call me at (818) 251-2157 if you have any questions. Your help and cooperation are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Rommel M. Marzan, P.E.
Project Manager

RMM:acg
cc: Gene Talmadge, LVMWD Planning Administrator

Date: February 25, 1998

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PERMIT TO ENTER

Permission is hereby granted to:**Las Virgenes Municipal Water District** , hereinafter referred to as PERMITTEE, to enter Malibu Creek State Beach; for the purpose of installing and maintaining a sewer pipeline which will bypass the failed section of pipeline..

The rights and privileges hereby granted to PERMITTEE at the option of PERMITTEE, may be exercised by any authorized agent or contractor of PERMITTEE.

By acceptance of this Permit to Enter, it is expressly understood and agreed by and between the parties that PERMITTEE agrees to indemnify and hold the undersigned and STATE harmless against any and all loss, damage and/or liability which may be suffered or incurred by STATE and against any and all claims, demands and causes of action that may be brought against STATE caused by, or arising out of, or in any way connected with the use and/or occupancy of said further agrees to assume full responsibility for any and all damages caused by PERMITTEE'S operation under this Permit and PERMITTEE shall, at its option, either repair or pay for such damages.

PERMITTEE shall adhere to the conditions and terms as outlined on page 2 of this permit.

Sincerely,

Daniel C. Preece Date 2-25-98

Daniel C. Preece, District Superintendent
Angeles District
State of California
Department of Parks and Recreation

ACCEPTED:

James E. Colbaugh Date 2-25-98

Jim Colbaugh

Terms and Conditions

1. Permit will expire when an easement is granted to the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District for the new pipeline or by September 1, 1998, whichever is sooner.

2. Las Virgenes Municipal Water District agrees to pay all costs associated with the processing and recording of an easement for the pipeline. Cost shall include but not be limited to appraisal, survey, administrative and processing costs

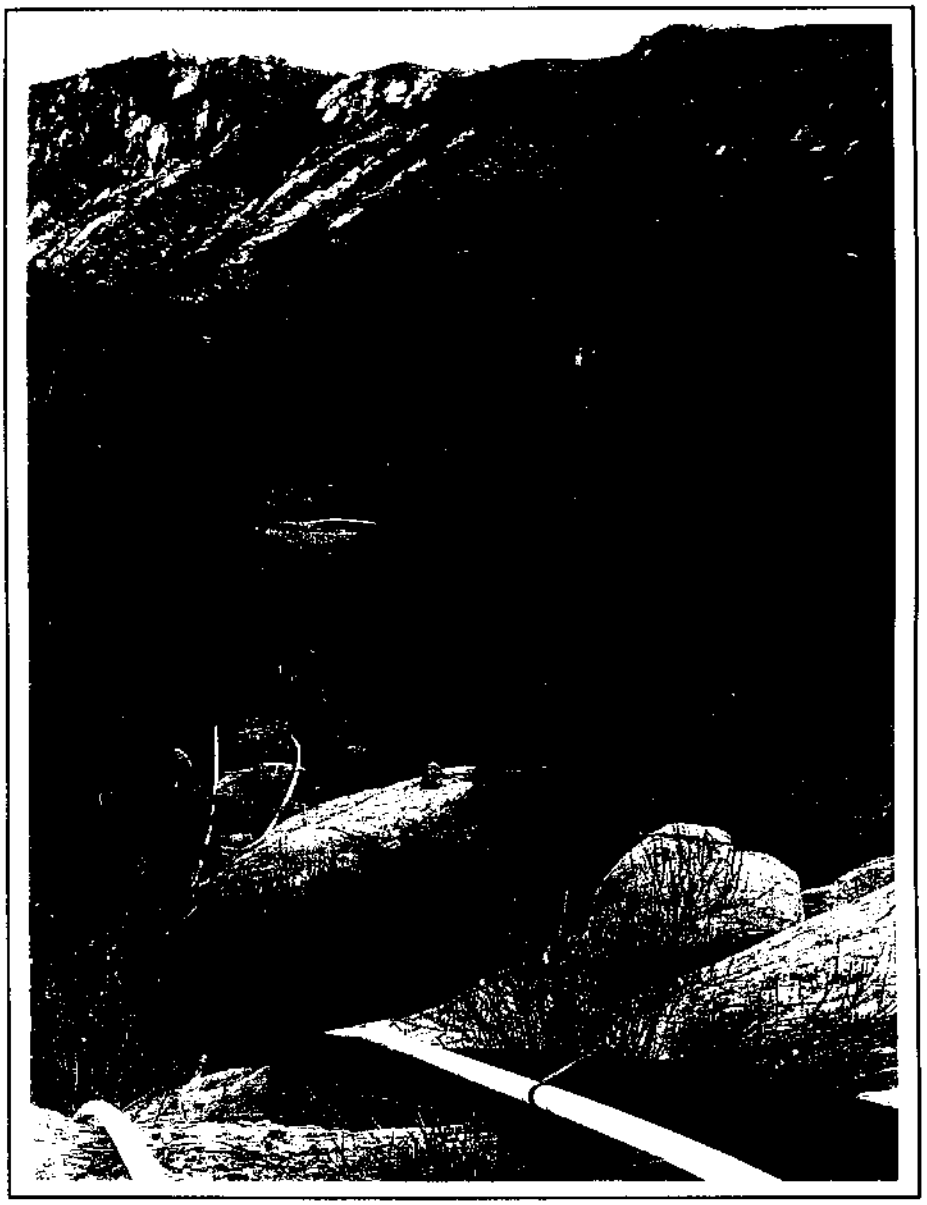
3. Archeological monitor must be present on site at all times that excavation activity is underway. Las Virgenes Municipal Water District agrees to hire the archeological monitor who must be acceptable to State. The archeological monitor shall immediately stop all work and contact the State's representative if any archeological features are discovered in the project area.

4. Las Virgenes Municipal Water District agrees to fund all restoration and mitigation associated with this pipeline repair project. Restoration and Mitigation plans are subject to the State's review and approval. Restoration shall include but not be limited to decompacting, recontouring, debris removal, revegetation and $5,000 to be paid to State for future exotic vegetation removal.

CEQA Environmental Determination Report

MILDAS DRIVE

PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



PREPARED FOR:

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

4232 Las Virgenes Road
Calabasas, California 91302-1994
Attn: Mr. Rommel Marzan, Project Engineer

PREPARED BY:

Envicom Corporation

28328 Agoura Road
Agoura Hills, California 91301

FEBRUARY 13, 2004

MILDAS DRIVE

PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

CEQA ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION REPORT

Prepared For:

LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRCT
4232 Las Virgenes Road
Calabasas, California 91302-1994
Attn: Mr. Rommel Marzan, Project Engineer

Prepared By:

ENVICOM CORPORATION
28328 Agoura Road
Agoura Hills, California 91301

February 13, 2004

1.0 INTRODUCTION

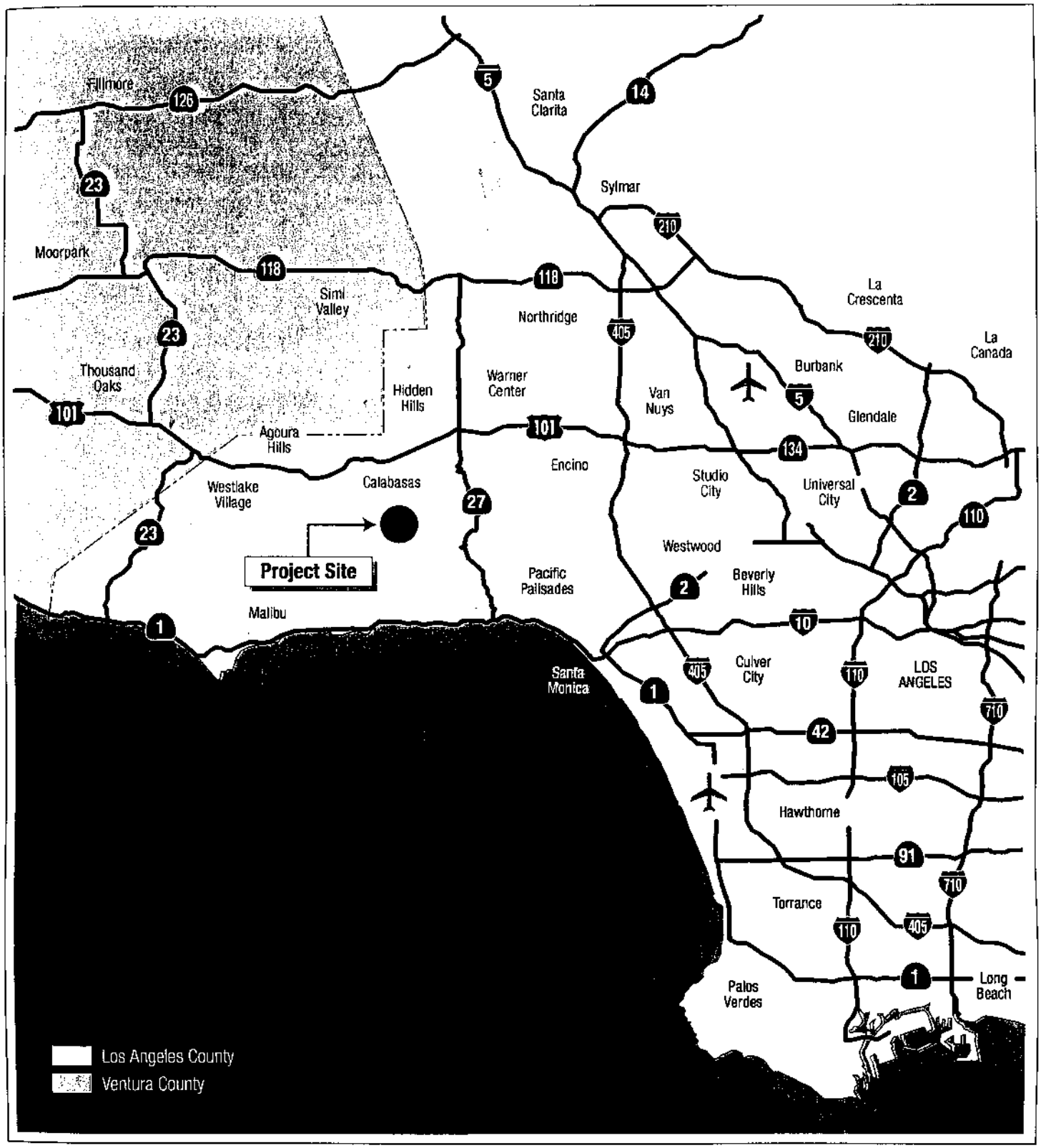
This document sets forth the justification for: (1) issuance of a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) "Categorical Exemption", and (2) exemption from a Coastal Development Permit, for the Mildas Drive Pipeline Replacement Project. The Mildas Drive Pipeline is owned and operated by the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD), which is responsible for the distribution of potable water to the local community. The Mildas Drive Pipeline is a transmission pipeline between Stunt Road Pump Station and the Saddle Peak Tank. The subject Project is 745 feet in length, in the general vicinity of Mildas Road in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County (**Figure 1**).

The Project consists of the removal of an existing temporary pipeline that is above-grade, except at two locations where it is buried to cross Mildas Drive, and replacement with a permanent above and belowground pipeline. The existing pipeline is a combination of 10-inch aluminum pipeline and eight-inch high density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic pipe. The proposed pipeline would consist of an eight-inch Ductile Iron Pipe (DIP) with rubber gasketed bell and spigot joints. The existing water line is a temporary pipeline, installed in 1995 after a landslide damaged the original 14-inch pipeline from 1964. The pipe requires replacement for a number of reasons. First of all, the HDPE pipe is subject to damage during wildfire events. Second, experience has shown that the aluminum is particularly vulnerable to internal corrosion. The permanent line will accommodate the existing Maximum Day Demand for the near future (170 gallons per minute (gpm)) and the Maximum Day Demand at Buildout (475 gpm). The hydraulic and economic analyses indicated that with respect to pumping, an eight-inch replacement pipeline was adequate and that a larger and more costly 10-inch pipe was not necessary. In addition, the Project includes limited excavation associated with the pipeline construction, the removal of all existing pipes following construction, and the restoration of the affected area (all of which are referred to hereinafter as the "Project").

This Categorical Exemption has been completed in accordance with the applicable provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Article 19, Section 15302, Replacement or Reconstruction, and is considered the appropriate method of environmental documentation for the proposed Project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15300. As set forth in Section 4.0 of this report, and based on environmental analysis, the subject project is not subject to a Coastal Development Permit in accordance with Coastal Act Section 30610 (d). Under Section 30610 (d), projects are authorized without a Coastal Development Permit if they involve,

> *"Repair or maintenance activities that do not result in an addition to, or enlargement or expansion of, the object of those repair or maintenance activities; provided, however, that if the commission determines that certain extraordinary methods of repair and maintenance involve a risk of substantial adverse environmental impact, it shall, by regulation, require that a permit be obtained pursuant to this chapter."*

This environmental document summarizes the justification for the Project qualifying for a CEQA Categorical Exemption, including a Project Review Summary (Section 2.0), a brief Environmental Issues Review for the proposed Project (Section 3.0), Application of CEQA and an Environmental Determination Finding (Section 4.0). A Notice of Exemption form is also provided (Section 5.0).



MILDAS DRIVE - PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

ENVICOM CORPORATION

Regional Location

MILES 0 2 4

FIGURE 1

2.0 PROJECT REVIEW SUMMARY

2.1 PROJECT TITLE

Mildas Road Pipeline Replacement Project.

2.2 LEAD AGENCY NAME AND ADDRESS

Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD)
4232 Las Virgenes Road
Calabasas, California 91302-1994
Rommel Marzan, Project Engineer
(818) 251-2100

2.3 PROJECT PROPONENT

The proponent for the Project is the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District ("LVMWD"), a public agency that provides: potable water transmission and distribution; recycled water transmission and distribution; and wastewater collection, treatment and reclamation services. The Mildas Road Replacement Project is specific to one section of a water pipeline which is used solely for potable water transmission and distribution purposes.

2.4 PROJECT LOCATION AND SURROUNDING USES

The subject Project is located in the general vicinity of Mildas Drive in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County (**Figure 2**). Mildas Drive is a narrow paved roadway, approximately 10 feet wide, that descends towards the north at gradients ranging from 13 to 22 percent. The Project consists of the replacement of 745 feet of an existing temporary potable water pipeline (**Figure 3**).

Uses that are adjacent to the Project site consist predominantly of vacant land together with single-family residential uses. Connection of the new pipeline to the existing system would be within the existing Stunt Road right-of-way. The lower portion of the pipeline would be located in Mildas Drive, a private driveway over which the District has an existing easement. A new easement, approximately 20 to 30 feet wide would be required across the northwesterly corner of Assessor 's Parcel Number (APN) 4453-17-44. Additional new easement would also be required across approximately 400 feet of APN 4448-17-51.

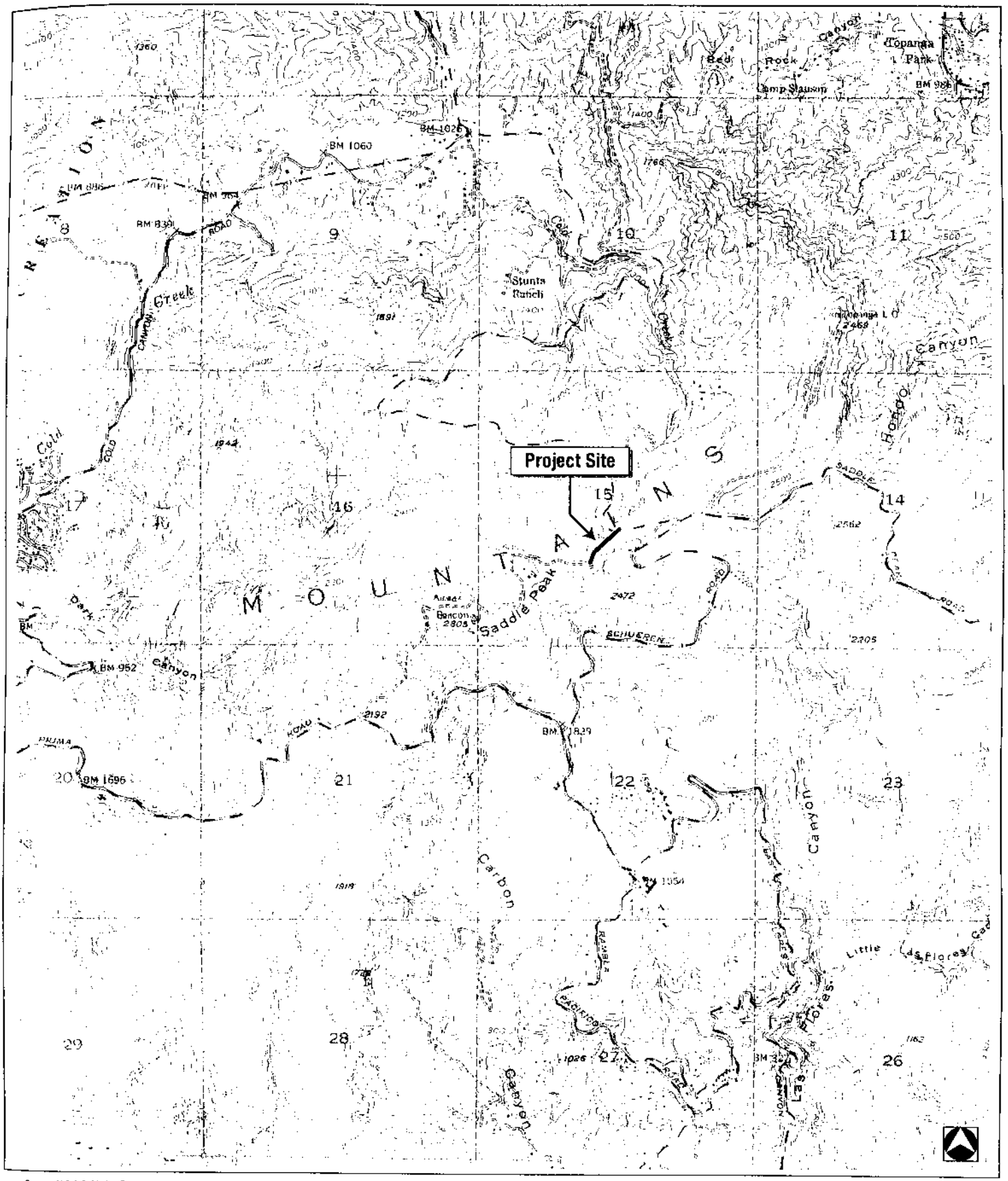
2.5 PROJECT NEED AND OBJECTIVE

The subject pipeline facilities, convey potable water between the Stunt Road Pump Station and the Saddle Peak Tank. Primary use is residential service and fire suppression services, including supplemental fireflow to the Warner Subsystem from the Saddle Peak Subsystem.

2.6 PROJECT COMPONENTS

The proposed Project consists of the following two components:

- *Component 1: Excavation and Construction of a Permanent Above- and Below-Grade Pipeline*
- *Component 2: Demolition/Removal of Existing (Temporary) Above- and Below-Grade Pipeline*



Source: U.S.G.S. Malibu Beach Quadrangle, revised 1994

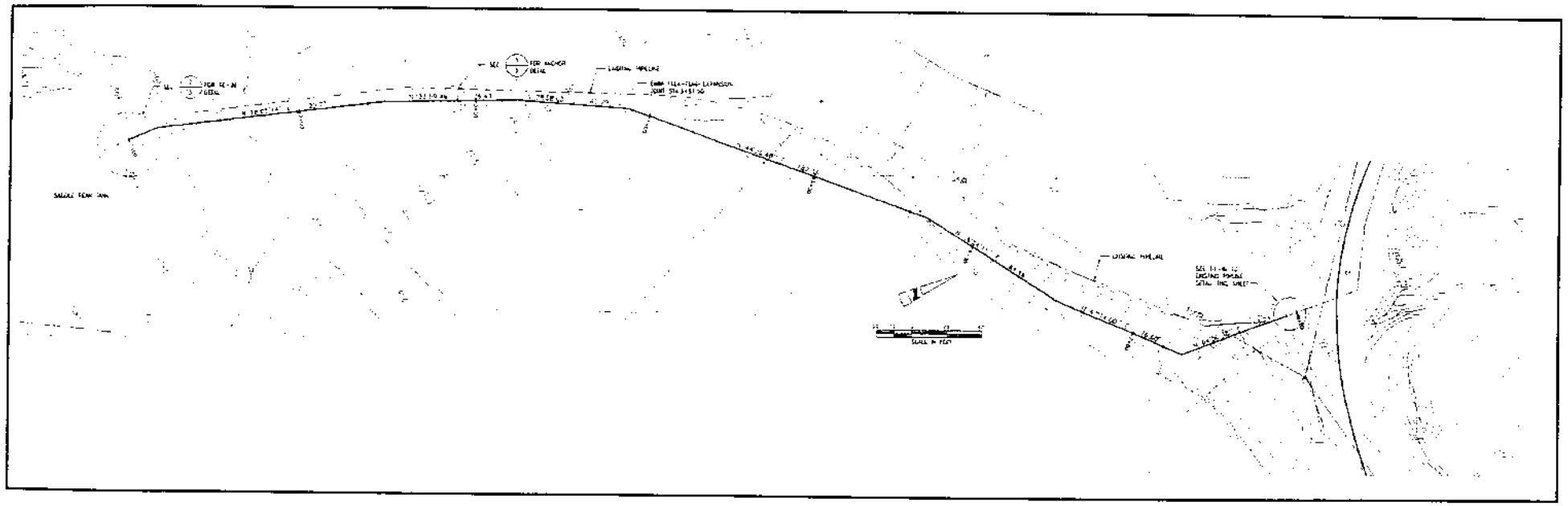
MILDAS DRIVE - PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

ENVICOM CORPORATION

Project Location Map

FEET 0 1,000 2,000

FIGURE 2



MILDAS DRIVE - PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

ENVICOM CORPORATION

Project Site

FIGURE 3

Component 1: *Excavation and Construction of a Permanent Above- and Below-Grade Pipeline*

Excavation

This element of the Project consists of the excavation of approximately 130 cubic yards of dirt along the side of the lower portion of Mildas Road. This dirt will be balanced on-site following installation of the new, permanent pipeline. Excavation for the pipeline will require an average trench width of approximately 30 inches, with an average trench depth of approximately 48 inches. According to the design consultant, the depth of the line will minimize the risk of soil creep and exposure.

Construction

The existing 10- and eight-inch potable water pipeline will be replaced with a new eight-inch pipeline. Approximately 745 feet of new pipeline will be constructed, replacing the existing temporary pipeline. The existing pipe will be removed from the Project site.

The following provides an overview of the pipeline design, as detailed by the design consultant, Boyle Engineering:

The proposed pipeline will consist of 8-inch Ductile Iron Pipe, supplied in 18 or 20-foot lengths, and would have a rubber gasketed bell and spigot joints. For the below ground sections in Mildas Road, pipeline construction will be conventional, meaning that a trench is excavated, sand (or other suitable bedding material) is placed in the bottom of the trench, and then the trench is backfilled with suitable material. Backfill materials will be conditioned with water and compacted using mechanical means to approximately 90 percent minimum relative compaction. It is anticipated that all excavated material will be used on site for trench backfill and fill. Much of the pipeline route is in hilly terrain, but is not so steep that construction will require specialized equipment.

The aboveground section of the pipeline with be positioned with a small track vehicle and a wench from an upslope position. The sections of pipe will be anchored to the slopes to hold the pipeline in position.

Component 2: *Demolition/Removal of Existing Pipelines*

Demolition/Removal

The second Project component consists of the demolition and removal of the existing 10- and eight-inch pipelines (see **Figure 4**, Site Photographs). According to the design consultant, the new pipeline will be offset from the existing alignment by several feet. The existing pipeline will remain fully operational until the new eight-inch line is installed and functioning.

Demolition and removal of the temporary pipeline is expected to be completed within one month after installation and operation of the permanent pipeline.

2.7 PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed Project requires the approval of the Project and the issuance of a CEQA Categorical Exemption Action by the Board of Directors of the LVMWD. The Project also requires an LVMWD determination that the Project is exempt from a Coastal Permit.






MILDAS DRIVE - PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

ENVICOM CORPORATION

Site Photographs

FIGURE 4

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES REVIEW

3.1 HAZARDS

Geotechnical. Information provided under this section is based upon the Preliminary Geotechnical Study, Mildas Drive Pipeline, Malibu Area, Los Angeles, California, prepared by Fugro West, Inc. for Boyle Engineering Corporation.

No faults have previously been mapped within the project area. The closest mapped fault to the project is located about 1,000 feet to the west (Yerkes and Campbell, 1980). A west-trending lineation observed on aerial photographs is located in the area of the intersection of Mildas Drive and Stunt Road. This could be fault related; however, no field exposures were observed that could substantiate the presence or absence of faulting at that site. Numerous distinct changes in bedding orientations were also observed between Mildas Drive and the Saddle Peak Tank site. Those changes may be indicative of faulting within the study area; however, many of those abrupt changes may instead be a result of large scale landslide movement.

Landslide deposits observed in the area consist predominantly of sandstone, mudstone, and claystone derived from the Topanga and Sespe Formations. Depths of the landslide deposits are unknown at this time, but may be up to many tens of feet to hundreds of feet deep. Based on the observation of recent landslide movement, it is apparent that the pipeline distress along Mildas Drive is related to deformation and movement of the landslide debris mapped beneath the northern half of Mildas Drive. The proposed alignment is adjacent to approximately 100 feet of the margin of the landslide impacting Mildas Drive. Along that portion of the landslide, it does not appear the adverse movements are currently occurring. That margin is adjacent to a currently inactive (ancient) landslide that appears to consist of a large slab of Sespe Formation. In this landside-adjacent area, the proposed pipeline will be placed along the surface with flexible couplings that could accommodate movement should it occur.

LVMWD is responsible for monitoring the pipeline as part of their regular maintenance program for any signs of damage to the lines which may need repair either due to a geologic event or other problem. ***Geotechnical impacts are not considered significant.***

Flood. The proposed Project will replace an existing, (temporary) above-/below-grade pipeline with an above-/below-grade permanent pipeline. Significant grading or change to the existing topography will not occur. Excavation will be limited to approximately 130 cubic yards, which will be balanced on-site after pipeline installation. Once the new pipeline has been constructed, the temporary line will be removed. Based on the size and nature of the proposed Project, hydrology and drainage issues will not be significant due to Project implementation. ***Flood impacts are not considered significant.***

Fire. The Project's rural location, with its vegetation and topography, along with the dry regional climate, is susceptible to brush fires. The existing high-density polyethylene plastic pipe is subject to damage due to wild fires. Although the pipeline will be below-grade in some locations, the proposed Ductile Iron Pipe can be placed on the ground surface and be safe in wildfire situations. ***Fire hazard impacts are not considered significant.***

Noise. The proposed Project is located in a rural area of the Santa Monica Mountains. The ambient noise levels in the project area are generally low. Temporary noise will occur at the Project site due to construction and demolition/removal of the pipeline. However, there are no sensitive receptors in the area of the proposed construction that would not be shielded by topographic features.

Additionally, work hours would be limited within the hours of 7:00 am and 3:00 pm. Operation of the proposed pipeline would not result in any increase in noise above the existing conditions. ***Noise impacts are not considered significant.***

3.2 RESOURCES

Water Quality. The proposed Project involves the replacement of a temporary water pipeline with a permanent water pipeline. The new pipeline will transmit potable water between the Stunt Road Pump Station and the Saddle Peak Tank. The new pipeline is 745 feet in length and will be constructed adjacent to an existing temporary pipeline. No releases of water are anticipated. Accidental releases (as a result of an earthquake, for example) should they occur would not contain any hazardous substances. Thus, water quality (run-off or ground water) would not be degraded. Based on the size and use of the pipeline, the Project will not have an effect on local or regional water quality. ***Water quality impacts are not considered significant.***

Air Quality. During its construction, the proposed Project will generate limited air pollutant emissions from trucks, construction equipment, and grading/excavation. Due to the small-scale of the proposed pipeline replacement, the subject Project falls below the threshold criteria for regionally significant air quality impacts. The construction activities will incorporate standard dust prevention measures. ***Air quality impacts are not considered significant.***

Biological Resources. On November 10, 2003, Mr. Carl Wishner, Principal Biologist with Envicom Corporation, examined the ROW for the water pipeline to be located immediately south of Stunt Road at Mildas Drive, leading from the existing water tank on the east-trending ridgeline of Saddle Peak. The proposed alignment was found to involve mountainous terrain on the north slope of Saddle Peak at elevations ranging from 2,325 to 2,400 feet msl. The proposed pipeline is located adjacent to a portion of an ephemeral drainage course that is the headwaters of Cold Creek, a tributary of Malibu Creek.

Plants

The area involved supports primarily native vegetation consisting of chaparral that is dominated by several shrub species including bigpod ceanothus (*Ceanothus megacarpus*), birch-leaf mountain mahogany (*Cercocarpus betuloides*), holly-leaf redberry (*Rhamnus ilicifolia*), holly-leaf cherry (*Prunus ilicifolia*), California scrub oak (*Quercus berberidifolia*), and toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*). In addition, exposed sandstone and thin soils derived there from supports a saxicolous plant community of spike-moss (*Selaginella bigelovii*) and bryophytes (*mosses and liverworts*), and herbaceous vascular plants including several species of annual grasses, and geophytes such as red-skinned onion (*Allium haematochiton*), golden stars (*Bloomeria crocea*), mariposa lily (*Calochortus* sp.), and soap-plant (*Chlorogalum pomeridianum*). Also present is a small stand of introduced Eucalyptus trees, tentatively identified as Eucalyptus camaldulensis. During the course of Envicom's examination, all vascular plants observed within approximately 50 feet of either side of the existing temporary (above ground) pipeline were recorded. The results included three native ferns and allies, 69 species of flowering plants including 44 dicotyledonous species (9 alien), and 15 monocotyledonous species (seven alien). Ten species of bryophytes including eight mosses and two liverworts were also observed. Lichens were not specifically examined, however. The compilation of vascular plants and bryophytes at this location is provided in **Attachment A**.

Wildlife

Observations of wildlife recorded bird species on the date of the field study included northern flicker, Bewick's wren, house wren, oak titmouse, yellow-rumped warber, mourning dove, California

thrasher, California towhee, spotted towhee, fox sparrow, white-crowned sparrow, and dark-eyed junco. Considerably more bird species are anticipated to occur at this site, even if only seasonally, occasionally, sporadically, or rarely. Due to cold temperatures at the time of the survey, no reptiles were observed, although the full range of those occurring in the Santa Monica Mountains could be anticipated. The characteristic "krek-eck"call of Pacific chorus frog was heard. This species, and possibly blackbellied slender salamander may be the only ones present. No mammals were observed directly, although sign of cottontail and/or brush rabbit (scat), mule deer (scat, track), Botta's pocket gopher (burrows), and coyote (scat) were evident. Additional species are anticipated.

The water district intends to install the replacement pipeline aboveground in the segment between the loop in Mildas Drive, up through areas where sandstone outcrops predominate. The construction process would involve positioning the segments of pipe into place and securing them in place through an anchoring system. The proposed pipeline would be located to the southeast of the existing temporary pipeline, and would not result in an impact on the streamcourse.

In the area of the sandstone outcropping, it is understood that the pipeline would be above ground, and anchored securely to the exposed sandstone. In one short segment thereon, a small population of Mariposa lilies (*Calochortus sp.*) and other geophytes were observed, and these would likely be impacted by the construction. The lack of flowers on the Mariposa lilies at this time of the year precludes an incontrovertible determination of the correct species; however, in the investigator's considerable experience and knowledge of the flora of these mountains, it is either club-haired Mariposa (*Calochortus clavatus*), or Plummer's Mariposa (*C. plummerae*), based on characteristics of the fruit. The latter species is a sensitive one, placed on the California Native Plant Society's List 1B (Plants Threatened or Endangered in California). Although not a listed species, those on this list meet the criteria for listing under the California Endangered Species Act, and as such, impacts thereto must be considered as if they are listed pursuant to CEQA §15380 (2)(d). In the absence of additional information that confirms the correct determination of the species involved (which would not be available until June, 2004), it should be presumed that these are Plummer's Mariposa, and appropriate measures taken to protect them. This might be accomplished by placing a protective mat over the surface of the work area during construction that would prevent undue ground disturbance caused by machinery and trampling by the workers, and restriction of the work area by temporary plastic fencing. These materials should be removed at the completion of the work.

One final concern is for nesting bird species during construction. Fish and Game Code §3503 specifies: "It is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation made pursuant thereto." Furthermore, §3503.5 states "It is unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto." Ideally, and in order to prevent any such violation, all work should be completed during the time of the year when birds are not nesting, generally considered to be between mid-August to the end of February. Should construction be proposed during the nesting period, a pre-construction survey should be undertaken by a competent biologist to determine whether nests are located within or adjacent to the construction zone, and if so, specify measures required to prevent such impacts (code violation).

In conclusion, adherence to the recommendations herein should reduce the impacts of the proposed pipeline replacement to less than significant with respect to biological resources. ***Biological Resources impacts would be considered less than significant with implementation of the specified mitigating practices for nesting birds.***

Cultural Resources. McKenna et. al., prepared an archaeological records check on November 11, 2003 for the proposed Project to identify any documented prehistoric and historical resources within one mile of the subject property (refer to **Attachment B**). In addition, the file of historic maps, the California Points of Historical Interest (PHI), the listing of California Historic Landmarks (CHL), the Californa Register of Historic Resources Inventory (HRI), and the National Register of Historic Places have been reviewed for the proposed Project.

Eight recorded prehistoric archaeological sites have been identified within a one mile radius of the project area. None of these sites is located within the Project area. One prehistoric isolate has been identified within one mile of the project. No historic archaeological sites have been identified within a one mile radius of the project area. No historic isolates have been identified within one mile of the project.

No recorded historic built environments have been identified within a one mile radius of the Project. Historic map, Calabasas (1903), was reviewed and no resources were identified in the Project area. Twelve Cultural Resource Investigations have been conducted within a one mile radius of the Project site. Of these, none are located within the Project area. However, eight archaeological sites and one archaeological isolate have been identified through these studies. This indicates a moderate sensitivity for prehistoric archaeological resources in the general area.

On December 5, 2003, McKenna et. al. conducted a formal survey for cultural resources along the project alignment. The survey indicated no evidence of prehistoric or historic cultural resources was identified and the proposed alignment is considered clear of any such resources. It should be noted that the area was densely overgrown and the visual inspection was limited. If grading or vegetation removal is needed, a professional archaeologist should be on-site to monitor. However, at this time the proposed Project does not involve grading or vegetation removal through previously undisturbed areas. Therefore, no mitigation is required.

Based on the foregoing, no significant environmental impacts would occur on cultural resources due to the Project. ***Cultural Resource impacts are not considered significant.***

Mineral Resources. The Project is not in an area of a known significant mineral resource as shown on the California Division of Mines and Geology maps. It is not in a major riverbed, therefore it is not considered a location for significant sand and gravel resources. Also, the Project is not in an area of known oil or other resource extraction. In addition, the Project would disturb a relatively small area geographically. Based on this information, mineral resources will not be significantly impacted due to Project development. ***Mineral Resources impacts are not considered significant.***

Agricultural Resources. The site has been historically vacant land, with steep terrain. Based on the current use of the subject property, no significant impacts to agricultural resources would occur due to Project implementation. Further, according to the California Department of Conservation, the subject is not classified as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide or Local Importance. In addition, the Project would disturb a relatively small area geographically. ***Agricultural Resources impacts are not considered significant.***

Visual Qualities. The Mildas Drive Pipeline Replacement Project involves the construction of a new, permanent pipeline to replace a temporary, deteriorating pipeline. The existing pipeline is above-grade in some areas and is visible for brief moments from Stunt Road and surrounding area. Installation of the new pipeline will provide for an above-/below-grade water pipeline, which will provide limited visibility as in the existing conditions. ***Visual Qualities impacts are not considered significant.***

3.3 SERVICES

Traffic. A small portion of the Project is located within Mildas Drive, over which LVMWD has existing easement. Mildas Drive is a private drive which supplies access to the Saddle Peak Tank and three residences. Traffic will be temporary and limited due to the location and size of the proposed Project. All trenches in Mildas Road will be backfilled or plated each night Pipeline construction is not expected to require closure of any public roads or require a haul route permit. ***Traffic impacts are not considered significant.***

Sewage Disposal. The proposed Project involves the replacement of existing temporary potable water pipeline which transmits water between the Stunt Road Pump Station and the Saddle Peak Tank. Since the Project does not generate sewage based on the use, there will not be an impact to local or regional sewage disposal. ***Sewage Disposal impacts are not considered significant.***

Education. The proposed Project involves the replacement of existing temporary potable water pipeline which transmits water between the Stunt Road Pump Station and the Saddle Peak Tank. Since the Project is not a residential or related project, which may impact local educational services, there will not be an impact to local schools or education. ***Education impacts are not considered significant.***

Public Services and Utilities. The proposed Project is being undertaken by the local, public water district (LVMWD) as part of their routine maintenance and replacement of an existing, temporary water pipeline. The new pipeline will be a permanent pipeline which will serve various customers in the area. Because of the nature of the Project, including size and use, issues related to the availability of utilities such as, Water Supply, Gas/Electric Service, and Landfill Capacity, Fire and Sheriff Services will not be impacted. ***Public Services and Utility impacts are not considered significant.***

3.4 OTHER

Environmental Safety. The proposed Project involves the replacement of existing temporary potable water pipeline which transmits water between the Stunt Road Pump Station and the Saddle Peak Tank. Both the existing and the proposed permanent pipeline transmit potable water and will not contain or transport hazardous materials. Accordingly, environmental safety issues will not be significant due to Project implementation. ***Environmental Safety impacts are not considered significant.***

Land Use. The proposed Project involves the replacement of an existing, temporary potable water line which is deteriorating with a new, permanent pipeline serving the exact same purpose within the existing Stunt Road right-of-way. A new easement 20 feet wide, would be required across the northwesterly corner of Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 4453-17-44., and across approximately 400 feet of APN 4448-17-51.

The proposed Project is also located within the Coastal Zone. However, the proposed Project is consistent with Section 30610(d) of the California Coastal Act. Section 30610(d) states that a Coastal Development is not required for:

"Repair or maintenance activities that do not result in an addition to, or enlargement or expansion of, the object of those repair or maintenance activities; provided, however, that if the commission determines that certain extraordinary methods of repair and maintenance involve a

risk of substantial adverse environmental impact, it shall, by regulation, require that a permit be obtained pursuant to this chapter."

The proposed pipeline would not expand the facilities and would not result in extraordinary methods of maintenance with the potential for adverse environmental impacts. Therefore, the Project is authorized for development without a coastal permit. ***Land Use impacts are not considered significant.***

Population/Housing/Employment. The proposed Project, is a minor utility infrastructure replacement Project, and would not increase the volume of potable water provided to the area, or expand the service area. Therefore, the proposed Project would not have an affect on local population, housing, or employment. ***Population/Housing/Employment impacts are not considered significant.***

Recreation. The proposed Project, a minor utility infrastructure replacement project, will not have an adverse effect on local or regional recreation. ***Recreation impacts are not considered significant.***

4.0 APPLICATION OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

4.1 CATEGORICAL EXEMPTIONS

Section 21084 of the Public Resources Code mandates that the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines include a list of classes of projects which have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment and, therefore, shall be exempt from the provisions of CEQA. Based on this direction, the Secretary for State Resources set forth a list of projects (under Article 19) which are declared to be categorically exempt from the requirement for the preparation of environmental documents. As such, the Mildas Drive Pipeline Replacement Project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption from CEQA as described below.

According to Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 3, Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act, the proposed Project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption (Article 19) from CEQA regulations. Specifically, the Project qualifies for a CEQA (Class 2) Categorical Exemption, as specified in Article 19, Section 15302 under the heading Replacement or Reconstruction, as follows:

15302. Replacement or Reconstruction
Class 2 consists of replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced, including but not limited to:

(a) Replacement or reconstruction of existing schools and hospitals to provide earthquake resistant structures which do not increase capacity more the 50 percent.

(b) Replacement of a commercial structure with a new structure of substantially the same size, purpose, and capacity.

(c) Replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and/or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity.

(d) Conversion of overhead electric utility distribution system facilities to underground including connection to existing overhead electric utility distribution lines where the surface is restored to the condition existing prior to the undergrounding.

The proposed Project qualifies for exemption under Article 19, Categorical Exemptions, based on application of item "(c)" listed above. The Project involves the replacement of an existing temporary 10-inch water pipeline and the reconstruction of a permanent 12-inch water pipeline with negligible expansion in capacity.

4.2 ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION FINDING

Based on the environmental analysis contained within this Environmental Determination Report and interpretation and application of CEQA Guidelines Article 19, Categorical Exemptions as described above, it is determined that the Mildas Drive Project is exempt from the preparation of further CEQA environmental documentation.

As stated in **Section 2.7 Proposed Action**, should the LVMWD Board approve the proposed Project, by certification of this Environmental Determination Report, the LVMWD shall file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) Form for the Project. The following section contains the NOE Form as presented in Appendix E of the CEQA Guidelines.

Notice of Exemption

Form D

To: ☐ Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

☐ County Clerk
County of _____

From: (Public Agency) Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (LVMWD)
4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302-1994
(Address)

Project Title: Mildas Drive Pipeline Replacement Project

Project Location - Specific:
Malibu Beach Quad - Project is located in a portion of Section 15 (Township 1 South, Range 17 West)

Project Location – City: unincorporated **Project Location – County:** Los Angeles

Description of Project:

See attached Environmental Determination Report, Section 2.0 Project Review Summary

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: LVMWD

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: LVMWD

Exempt Status: *(check one)*

- ☐ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- ☐ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- ☐ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- ☒ Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Title 14, Chapter 3 CEQA, Article 19
- ☐ Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons why project is exempt:

Article 19 - The project involves the replacement of an existing 10-inch water pipeline with and 8-inch permanent water pipeline with no increase in capacity.

Lead Agency
Contact Person: Mr. C. Eugene Talmadge, Planning Administrator Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 818-251-2100

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: C. Eugene Talmadge Date: 6 FEB, 2004 Title: Planning Administrator

☒ Signed by Lead Agency

☐ Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR: _____

Revised May 1999

Attachment A
List of Vascular Plants

Attachment A

Vascular Plants and Bryophytes Observed at Mildas Pipeline Location (Saddle Peak)
(November 10, 2003)

GROUP Family Scientific Name	Common Name
FERNS AND ALLIES	
Dryopteridaceae	
Dryopteris arguta	coastal wood fern
Pteridaceae	
Pentagramma triangularis t.	goldenback fern
Selaginellaceae	
Selaginella bigelovii	Bigelow's spike-moss
FLOWERING PLANTS - DICOTS	
Anacardiaceae	
Toxicodendron diversilobum	poison-oak
Apiaceae	
Sanicula arguta	snakerood
Asteraceae	
Baccharis pilularis consanguinea	coyote brush
Conyza canadensis	horseweed
Corethrogyne filaginifolia f.	California-aster
Eriophyllum confertiflorum c.	golden-yarrow
Gazania sp.	Gazania
Gnaphalium californicum	California everlasting
Hazardia squarrosa grindelioides	sawtooth goldenbush
Heterotheca grandiflora	telegraph weed
Madia gracile	slender tarweed
Sonchus oleraceus	sow-thistle
Brassicaceae	
Hirschfeldia incana	hoary mustard
Caprifoliaceae	
Lonicera subspicata denudata	chaparral honeysuckle
Sambucus mexicana	Mexican elderberry
Chenopodiaceae	
Salsola tragus	Russian-thistle
Crassulaceae	
Crassula connata	pygmy crassula
Cucurbitaceae	
Marah macrocarpus	wild cucumber
Ericaceae	
Arctostaphylos glandulosa mollis	Eastwood's manzanita
Fabaceae	
Lotus scoparius s.	deerweed
Melilotus sp.	sweet-clover
Spartium junceum	Spanish broom
Fagaceae	
Quercus berberidifolia	California scrub oak
Garryaceae	
Garrrya veatchii	Veatch's silk-tassel
Geraniaceae	
Erodium cicutarium	red-stem filaree

Attachment A (Cont.)

Vascular Plants and Bryophytes Observed at Mildas Pipeline Location (Saddle Peak)
(November 10, 2003)

GROUP Family Scientific Name	Common Name
Hydrophyllaceae	
Eucrypta chrysanthemifolia c.	common eucrypta
Lamiaceae	
Salvia mellifera	black sage
Malvaceae	
Ribes malvaceum/indecorum?	chaparral currant
Myrtaceae	
Eucalyptus sp.	Eucalyptus
Polemoniaceae	
Leptodactylon californicum c.	prickly-phlox
Polygonaceae	
Eriogonum fasciculatum foliolosum	California buckwheat
Ranunculaceae	
Delphinium cardinale	scarlet larkspur
Rubiaceae	
Galium angustifolium a.	narrow-leaf bedstraw
Galium aparine	goose-grass
Rhamnaceae	
Ceanothus megacarpus m.	bigpod ceanothus
Ceanothus oliganthus sorediatus	few-flowered wild lilac
Prunus ilicifolia	holly-leaf cherry
Rosaceae	
Cercocarpus betuloides	birch-leaf mountain-mahogany
Salicaceae	
Salix laevigata	red-willow
Scrophulariaceae	
Keckiella cordifolia	heart-leaf penstemon
Mimulus aurantiacus	bush monkeyflower
Mimulus guttatus	common monkeyflower
FLOWERING PLANTS - MONOCOTS	
Alliaceae	
Allium haematochiton	red-skinned onion
Bloomeria crocea	golden stars
Calochortaceae	
Calochortus clavatus/plummerae?	mariposa lily
Hyacinthaceae	
Chlorogalum pomeridianum p.	wavy-leaf soap-plant
Liliaceae	
Zygadenus fremontii	Fremont's zygadene

Attachment A (Cont.)

Vascular Plants and Bryophytes Observed at Mildas Pipeline Location (Saddle Peak)
(November 10, 2003)

GROUP Family Scientific Name	Common Name
Poaceae	
Avena barbata	slender wild oat
Bromus diandrus	ripgut brome
Bromus hordeaceus	soft-chess
Bromus laevipes	lax brome
Bromus madritensis rubens	red brome
Gastridium ventricosum	nit grass
Melica imperfecta	coast melic
Piptatherum miliaceum	mountain-millet
Poa secunda s.	one-sided bluegrass
Vulpia myuros m.	rattail fescue
BRYOPHYTES-LIVERWORTS	
Aytoniaceae	
Asterella sp.	--
Targioniaceae	
Targionia hypophylla	--
BRYOPHYTES-MOSSES	
Bartramiaceae	--
Anacolia menziesii	--
Brachytheciaceae	
Homalothecium arenarium	--
Scleropodium cespitans/californicum?	--
Bryaceae	
Bryum lanatum	--
Grimmiaceae	
Grimmia ovalis (<= *G. affinis*)	--
Grimmia laevigata	--
Pottiaceae	
Didymodon vinealis	--
Timmiella crassinervis	--

Attachment B
Archaeological Records Check Report

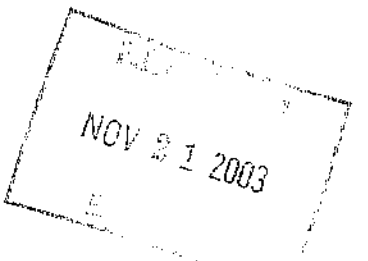
McKenna et al.

History/Archaeology/Architecture/Paleontology

Jeanette A. McKenna, M.A.
Owner and Principal Investigator
Reg. Professional Archaeologist

November 11, 2003

Envicom Corporation
Attn: Travis Cullen
28328 Agoura Road
Agoura Hills, California 91301



RE: Saddle Peak Archaeological Records Check.

Dear Travis:

McKenna et al. has completed the archaeological records check for the area identified on the USGS Malibu 7.5' Quadrangle. The research addressed the linear alignment located within Township 1 South, Range 17 West, Section 15 and the following discussion presents the results of this research. Essentially, the project area is a linear alignment of approximately 500 feet connecting two existing roads in the Santa Monica Mountains (near Saddle Peak), Los Angeles County, California..

A record search was conducted on November 11, 2003, at the California State University, Fullerton, South Central Coastal Information Center, by Catharine Wood, Archaeological Associate at McKenna et al. Ms. Wood is a graduate student at CSUF (Department of Anthropology) and a recent-past employee of the Information Center trained to complete such research.

Overview:

This search includes a review of all recorded historic and prehistoric archaeological sites within a one mile radius of the project area as well as a review of all known cultural resource reports. In addition, the file of historic maps, the California Points of Historical Interest (PHI), the listing of California Historical Landmarks (CHL), the California Register of Historic Resources Inventory (HRI) have been checked for the referenced project. The following is a discussion of the findings for the project area.

Archaeological Resources:

Eight recorded prehistoric archaeological sites (19-000154, 19-000155, 19-000170, 19-001262, 19-002329, 19-002330, 19-002331 and 19-002332) have been identified within a one mile radius of the project area. None of these sites is located within the project area (see enclosed map). One prehistoric isolate (19-100035) has been identified within a one mile radius of the project area (see enclosed map).

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(562) 696-3852 Office – (562) 693-4059 FAX – (562) 754-7712 Mobile

No historic archaeological sites have been identified within a one mile radius of the project area. No historic isolates have been identified within a one mile radius of the project area (see enclosed map).

Historic Resources:

No recorded historic built environments have been identified within a one mile radius of the project area (see enclosed map). Historic map, Calabasas (1903), was reviewed and no resources were identified in the area of the current project area. Additional resources investigated included:

- The California Point of Historical Interest (1992) of the Office of Historic Preservation, Department of Parks and Recreation. No properties are listed within a one mile radius of the project area.
- The California Historical Landmarks (1990) of the Office of Historic Preservation, Department of Parks and Recreation. No properties are listed within a one mile radius of the project area.
- The California Register of Historic Places. No properties are listed within a one mile radius of the project area.
- The National Register of Historic Places. No properties are listed within a one mile radius of the project area.
- The California Historic Resources Inventory. No properties have been evaluated for historical significance within a one mile radius of the project area.

Previous Cultural Resources Investigations:

Twelve studies (LA81, LA230, LA525, LA991, LA1216, LA1908, LA1950, LA3192, LA3228, LA3460, LA3561 and LA4681) have been conducted within a one mile radius of the project area. Of these, none are located within the project area, indicating the project area has not been formally surveyed for cultural resources.

Summary:

The proposed project area has not been surveyed for cultural resources. However, a minimum of twelve studies have been completed within one mile and these have resulted in the identification of at least eight archaeological sites and one archaeological isolate, indicating the general area is moderately sensitive for prehistoric archaeological resources. McKenna et al. recommends that the project alignment be formally surveyed for cultural resources to insure no potentially significant resources is present within the area and/or will be impacted by any proposed project.

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